

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The drawings stand objected to, as the Office Action contends that it is not clear how FIGS. 1 and 2 relate to each other. Applicant respectfully submits that the drawings relate to each other as a system level block diagram (i.e., FIG. 1) and a more detailed view of a portion of the system (i.e., FIG. 2). In this regard, note that FIG. 2 shows portions of the subject matter shown in FIG. 1. Specifically, FIG. 2 shows at least absolute value detector 20 that receives incoming differential voltage signals V_P and V_N . As described in the Specification, the schematic of FIG. 2 further shows a current comparator (i.e., cascode comparator 40 of FIG. 1). Accordingly, it is clear that FIG. 2 relates to FIG. 1 as a schematic diagram of a portion of the system. Thus it is respectfully submitted that the objection to the drawings is overcome. In any event, note that the claimed subject matter is not directed to the schematic level shown in FIG. 2.

Claims 17, 33 and 52 are objected to for use of the terminology "common mode". Claims 17 and 33 have been amended to overcome this objection. As to claim 52, it is respectfully noted that claim 52 does not include this language.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,665,398 (Ludeman). Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 44 and the intervening claims, indicated as including allowable subject matter. Accordingly it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom are patentable.

In view of these remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mark J. Rozman
Registration No. 42,117
TROP, PRUNER & HU, P.C.
8554 Katy Freeway, Suite 100
Houston, Texas 77024-1805
(512) 418-9944 [Phone]
(713) 468-8883 [Fax]
Customer No. 21906
Attorneys for Intel Corporation